

# Pine River Township Planning Commission

## Special Meeting

May 6, 2004

Meeting Called to Order at 7:08 p.m. by Chairman Griffith.

Members Present: Griffith, Aldrich, O'Boyle, Best  
Members Absent: Parsons  
Others Present: Bill Courter, Louise Courter, Billy Courter, Kevin Beeson, Gary Lofgren, and Doug Dice.

Chairman Griffith opened the Public Hearing on Courter Farms request to remove sandy ridges from their farming operation on their 80 acre property in Section 17 of Pine River Township.

Courter Farms' representative Doug Dice presented a synopsis of the proposed project. He explained that they plan to take farm ground with ridges, remove the sand ridges, replace the existing black dirt, and return the property to farm land.

Dice explained that while most sand will be used by Courter Farms (internally), they do plan to sell a limited amount to other interested parties.

Dice explained that most of the sand removal area is less than 10' in height.

No soil erosion permit has been obtained, as planning commission and township approval is a prerequisite.

Dice explained that there will be no ponds, and no change in water flow direction (runoff).

Hours of excavation operation are proposed to be 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

By October 15 of each year, disturbed areas will be seeded to provide soil stabilization.

No Public Comment was received.

Chairman Griffith closed the Public Hearing at 7:45 p.m.

**Motion by Best, support by Aldrich to approve the Site Plan as presented, with the following exceptions, additions, and / or deletions:**

- 1. In lieu of the proposed berm, Courter Farms will plant 12 rows of corn in the same area.**
- 2. Planning Commission and Courter Farms agree to an annual review of the operation with an abbreviated status report.**

**Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

Motion by O'Boyle, support by Aldrich to adjourn at 8:00 p.m.

Signed by: Chuck Griffith, Chairman  
Pine River Township Planning Commission